

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: )  
Jean-Marie Mathias )  
Serial No.: 10/618,353 )  
Filed: July 11, 2003 )  
Examiner: Catherine N. Witczak )  
Group Art Unit: 3767 )  
Title: NEEDLE PROTECTOR )

Honorable Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO OFFICE  
ACTION OF APRIL 21, 2006**

Sir/Madam:

In response to the Office Action of April 21, 2006, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.